NO CHANGE M OLAGS ESC BRIEFING MENT NO.

3 April 1957

- HR 70-30 REVIEWER 372044 Continuing Moslem opposition to Communist participation in I. government has caused formateur Suwirjo to fail in forming a "business cabinet". He returned his mandate to Sukarno on 2 April.
  - A. Sukarno says he will take "further action" in next few days.
  - B. May appoint a new formateur, or head "presidential cabinet" (as demanded by his opponents).
- Sukarno has threatened to arrest 25X1C C. leading political opponents and rule as a military dictator.
  - Army, which has been assuming increasingly important role in II. running the country, has launched an "anti-corruption" drive which appears designed to intimidate anti-Sukarno elements.
    - A. At least 30 prominent political leaders, most of whom are known to oppose Sukarno's "concept", are being investigated and interrogated by army and police.
    - B. Two prominent Moslem leaders (one MU, one Hasjumi) have been arrested on suspicion of corruption.
  - III. Meanwhile, abortive 31 March counter-coup in South Sumatra appears to have been effort by Army officers of Javanese extraction to restore central government control.
    - A. Action may have been set off by Sukarno's recent visit to South Sumatra as well as by reports of weakening of autonomous movement in Central Sumatra.
    - B. This counter-sovement may foreshadow similar attempts, stimulated by Sukarno, in other dissident areas.

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